

Amendments to the Specification:

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--DESCRIPTION/TITLE--

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--FIELD OF SEARCH/BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

Please DELETE the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 20 ("BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION").

Please REPLACE the second full paragraph, at page 3, beginning at line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Currently, therefore, the outer resin coating of resin-coated steel pipes is formed using synthetic resins, such as AAS, ~~ABS~~, ~~AES~~ and ~~PETG~~ acrylate acrylic styrene (AAS), acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS), Acrylonitrile-ethylene-styrene (AES) and Poly(ethylene terephthalate) glycol (PETG), which are inferior to crystalline engineering plastics in mechanical strength, including the ability to slide, and in heat resistance, but permit the use of a rubber-based adhesive which ensures excellent water resistance of the adhesion interface between the thin-walled steel pipe and the coated resin, and does not entail the separation of the coated resin.--

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 27, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--DISCLOSURE/BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--To achieve the objects described above, the invention as recited in claim 1 relates to a resin-coated steel pipe $[(1)]$ with superior mechanical strength, including the ability to slide, in which an alloy resin $[(3)]$ that is a mixture of a styrene-based resin and a crystalline engineering plastic is coated over the outer peripheral surface of a thin-walled steel pipe $[(2)]$ and is bonded to it by an adhesive. The crystalline engineering plastic $[(4)]$, of a thickness necessary to exhibit required mechanical strength, including the ability to slide, is coated over the outer peripheral surface of the coated resin $[(3)]$ such that the resin-coated steel pipe has a double coated structure with a uniform cross-sectional form along its axial direction.--

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the resin-coated steel pipe $[(1)]$ with superior mechanical strength, including the ability to slide, according to claim 1, the invention recited in claim 2 is characterized in that the styrene-based resin $[(3)]$ is a resin selected from the group comprised of AAS resins, ABS resins and AES resins, and the crystalline engineering plastic $[(4)]$ is a resin selected from the group comprised of PBT resins, nylon resins and polyacetal resins.--

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In the resin-coated steel pipe $[(1)]$ with superior mechanical strength, including the ability to slide, according to claim 1 or 2, the invention recited in claim 3 is

characterized in that the thin-walled steel pipe [(2)] is circular in section. The alloy resin [(3)] bonded and coated over the outer peripheral surface of the thin-walled steel pipe [(2)] has furrows [(3a)] and ridges [(3b)] formed alternately in the circumferential direction of the thin-walled steel pipe. Further, the furrows [(3a)] and the ridges [(3b)] extend in the axial direction of the thin-walled steel pipe such that the thin-walled steel pipe with the alloy resin coating has a uniform cross-sectional form along its axial direction. Each of the ridges [(3b)] has a groove [(3c)] formed on its outer peripheral surface and extending in the axial direction of the thin-walled steel pipe. The groove [(3c)] is capable of accommodating the crystalline engineering plastic [(4)] of a thickness and width necessary to exhibit the required mechanical strength, including the ability to slide. The crystalline engineering plastic [(4)] coated over the outer peripheral surface of the alloy resin [(3)] has a thickness such that the crystalline engineering plastic coated over the grooves [(3c)] in the respective ridges [(3b)] of the alloy resin [(3)] has a thickness greater than that coated on other regions, and that the resin-coated steel pipe is spline-shaped as a whole.--

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 31, with the following rewritten paragraph:

**--~~THE MOST PREFERRED EMBODIMENT~~DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF
THE INVENTION--**

Please DELETE the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 8 ("INDUSTRIAL UTILIZATION").